

Brownfields 2003 Grant Fact Sheet

JFY Networks, Boston, MA

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. The job training grants provide training for residents of communities affected by brownfields to prepare them for employment in the assessment and cleanup of brownfields sites. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

JFY Networks, formerly Jobs for Youth–Boston, was selected to receive a job training grant. JFT Networks recruits trainees from needy communities in Boston and surrounding communities. The City of Boston has been designated a federal EZ. Residents in the six-square-mile EZ suffer from relatively high poverty rates, and almost half of the EZ residents are African American or Hispanic. The median household income in Boston is one of the lowest in the State of Massachusetts. Needy brownfields communities near Boston, such as Somerville, Malden, and Brockton, also have high poverty rates and a high percentage of their residents are minorities. The many abandoned



Job Training Grant



\$200,000

EPA has selected JFY Networks, formerly Jobs for Youth–Boston, for a brownfields job training grant. JFY Networks, in Boston's Empowerment Zone (EZ), the location of EPA-funded Brownfield projects, plans to train 60 participants, achieve an 80% placement rate, and track graduates for two years to ensure job retention, sustainability, and career growth. The 460-hour training program will focus on environmental chemistry, site assessment, and hazardous waste handling. Additional training and certification will be available. Students will be recruited from lowincome and environmental justice communities impacted by brownfields in and around Boston. Students will be placed through existing links with placement companies and environmental employers.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 1 Brownfields Team 617-918-1210

http://www.epa.gov/region01/brownfields/

Grant Recipient: JFY Networks 617-338-0815

Prior to receipt of these funds in fiscal year 2003, JFY Networks, formerly Jobs for Youth-Boston, also received funding for job training grants.

brownfields in these communities need to be assessed, cleaned up, and redeveloped. The grant will train local residents impacted by brownfields for entry-level environmental positions needed to address local brownfields assessment and cleanup.